

1     A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING BLENDING USING AN OVER  
2                             SAMPLING BUFFER

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4                             Abstract of the Disclosure

5             The present invention provides an alpha blending unit that is able to perform  
6     alpha blending on sub-samples of a pixel in an efficient manner. The alpha blending  
7     unit preferably comprises a plurality of registers for storing a source color, a blending  
8     value, and a plurality of destination sub-sample values, multipliers, adders, an  
9     accumulator and a divider. The alpha blending unit advantageously sums the  
10    destination sub-sample values and then divides them by the number of sub-samples to  
11    generate a combined destination color value. This combined destination color value  
12    along with the source color and a blending value are then provided to the multipliers,  
13    and adders to generate a new destination color value for the pixel.